CLAIMS

I Claim:

1. A stone cutting system, comprising:

a retaining unit having at least one trough for receiving a plurality of stone members; and

a cutting unit having at least one blade, wherein said at least one blade is capable of being extended within said at least one trough for cutting a plurality of stone members into a plurality of stone pieces.

2. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough is comprised of an elongate structure.

3. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough has a uniform width.

4. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough has an adjustable width.

5. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough has a first end and an opposing second end.

6. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough includes a compression member that is capable of compressing a plurality of stone members in a longitudinal manner.

7. The stone cutting system of Claim 6, wherein said compression member is positioned within an end of said at least one trough.

8. The stone cutting system of Claim 6, including at least one actuator unit attached to said compression member.

9. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trough includes a floor.

10. The stone cutting system of Claim 9, wherein said floor includes a plurality of slots that allow for the passing through of a plurality of cut stone pieces.

11. The stone cutting system of Claim 10, wherein said plurality of slots are substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of said at least one trough.

12. The stone cutting system of Claim 9, wherein said floor is movably attached to said retaining unit for allowing the passing through of a plurality of cut stone pieces.

13. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said retaining unit is movably positioned with respect to said cutting unit along a path substantially transverse to a cutting path of said cutting unit.

14. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, including a conveyor unit positioned beneath said retaining unit for transferring a plurality of cut stone pieces.

15. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said cutting unit is comprised of a gang saw.

16. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein cutting unit is movable in a vertical manner.

17. The stone cutting system of Claim 1, wherein said cutting unit is movably in a horizontal manner substantially parallel to said at least one trough.

18. A method of cutting a plurality of stone members, said method comprising:
positioning a plurality of first stone members within a first trough; and
cutting said plurality of first stones within said elongated trough.

19. The method of cutting a plurality of stone members of Claim 18, including cutting a plurality of second stone members within a second trough.